

Middletown Economic Development Advisory Committee

Wednesday, October 12, 2011, 5:00 pm

Middletown Town Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Joseph A. Cirillo (exp. 1/13)_x_

7 Samson Lane

Middletown, RI 02842

jac@etal.uri.edu

Robert A. Connerney (exp.1/14)___

9 Renfrew Park

Middletown, RI, 02842

prconnerney@verizon.net

Helen F. Flynn (exp. 1/13)_x_

57 Tuckerman Ave.

Middletown, RI, 02842

haflynn@cox.net

Liana Ferreira Fenton (exp.1/14)_x_

53 Berkeley Ave.x

Middletown, RI 02842

Lianaff@aol.com

Tom Kowalczyk (exp. 1/13)___x

9 Beechland Place

Middletown, RI, 02842

Thomas.Kowalczyk@associates.dhs.gov

Robert M. Silva (exp. 1/16)___x_

1100 Aquidneck Ave.

Middletown, RI, 02842

rmsilva@silvalawgroup.com

Mike Hill (exp. 1/13) ___x_

Art Weber, Town Council Rep. ex-officio_x__

Chris Semonelli, Town Council Rep. ex-officio _x_

Jody Sullivan_____

Newport County Chamber of Commerce – ex-officio

keith@newportchamber.com

Ron Wolanski, Town Planner – ex-officio_x_ _

rwolanski@middletownri.com

Others present:

Rep. Deborah Ruggeirro

Shawn Brown, Town Administrator

1. Summer 2012 America's Cup & Tall Ships events.

Discussion of the upcoming events. There was discussion of inviting the RIEDC staff member in charge of the America's cup event, Paul Harden, and Even Smith to the next MEDAC meeting.

2. Discuss potential MEDAC/Town role in promoting renewable energy development and conservation retrofits.

Mr. Wolanski described the proposal presented by a local businessman to have the town serve as an agent in granting loans, possible supported by grant funding, to promote installation of renewable energy systems.

The matter was continued to the next MEDAC meeting.

3. Consider offer by Sen. DiPalma to coordinate tour of Newport State Airport.

Mr. Wolanski stated that Sen. DiPalma has offered to facilitate a tour of the airport. Members expressed interest. Mr. Wolanski will work with Sen. DiPalma to coordinate a tour.

4. Discuss status of MEDAC consultant and staffing. Discuss outreach, including MEDAC website and schedule of outreach meetings to local businesses.

Mr. Wolanski stated that there is ongoing discussion of staffing options to address economic development functions, including outreach efforts.

5. Discuss possible feasibility study for a Newport County convention center.

Continued to next MEDAC meeting.

6. Discuss proposed modification to the town's economic development tax incentive program to address hospitality.

Continued to next MEDAC meeting.

7. Update on RIDLT training grant.

Mr. Wolanski updated the committee on SENEDIA project which is funded by the grant.

8. Update on West Main/Coddington Redevelopment Master Plan.

Mr. Wolanski updated the committee on the status of the BRAC land disposition process, and completion of the master planning effort.

9. Update on Aquidneck Corporate Park improvement project.

Respectfully submitted:

Ronald M. Wolanski

Planning Director